C56

immunogens include the complete TR18 polypeptides depicted in SEQ ID NO:2 and TR18 polypeptide fragments comprising, for example, the cysteine rich domain, extracellular domain, transmembrane domain, and/or intracellular domain, or any combination thereof.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 24 and 26 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace claims 33, 36, 39 and 41 with the following rewritten claims:

C 57

--33. (Once Amended) A method of detecting Sjögren's disease comprising, contacting an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 with a biological sample and assaying for binding of neutrokine-α to said isolated polypeptide, wherein altered binding of neutrokine-α indicates the presence of Sjögren's disease.

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36. (Once Amended) A method of detecting Sjögren's disease comprising, contacting an isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids 4 to 45 of SEQ ID NO:2 with a biological sample and assaying for binding of neutrokine-α to said isolated polypeptide, wherein altered binding of neutrokine-α indicates the presence of Sjögren's disease.

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39. (Once Amended) A method of detecting Sjögren's disease comprising, contacting an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 with a biological sample and assaying for binding of an antibody that binds to said isolated polypeptide, wherein altered antibody binding indicates the presence of Sjögren's disease.

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41. (Once Amended) A method of detecting Sjögren's disease comprising, contacting an isolated antigenic epitope of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 with a biological sample and assaying for binding of an antibody that binds to an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein altered antibody binding indicates the presence of Sjögren's disease.--

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